

Minutes of the Cowichan Station/Sahtlam/Glenora Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting, held on August 23rd, 2010 at the Sahtlam Fire Hall

Present: Director Loren Duncan, Ron Smith, (Chair), Frank McCorkell, Howard Heyd, Phil Gates, John Ramsey, Mike Lees, Paul Slade

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

Minutes:

Minutes of the June 2nd meeting were not distributed.

Business Arising:

1. Johns Rd./Granite Rd.

There is still a proposal to put a gate on the Granite Rd. right-of-way and a picnic table near the Cowichan River but not to install any fences. A formal agreement from the Ministry of Transportation and Highways must be provided before any improvements will be undertaken.

2. Boys Road Improvements

This project is going ahead. A kiosk is proposed to be built with a bus shelter. The Commission suggested that a small re-design of the kiosk could be made but not to include any additional seating and so on since there is no guarantee of any funding assistance coming from BC Transit. The Commission is concerned that the Area E taxpayers are not paying \$85,000 for transit through the Cowichan Station area but after two years the busses have still not arrived.

3. Glenora Trails Head Park Update

Frank McCorkell updated the Commission on the work being done at the park. This included the summer student's work, the three new picnic tables that were brought down from Courtenay last week thanks to Paul Slade and Mike Lees as well as the arrival of the arrival of the playground earlier today. The Commission also appreciated the playground site preparation work undertaken by Frank and Howard Heyd.

New Business:

1. Glenora Trails Head Park Open House

With all additions at the park, including the new information signs, the Commission is to hold an Open House on Sunday, September 19th to allow the public to become familiar with the park and its various amenities. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially open the new playground and a community barbeque. Commission members will work with Director Duncan and others to stage the event.

2. Fairbridge Park

The Chair brought the Commission up-to-date on the work done by the summer students at the park, including the removal of some of the pile of debris placed there by adjacent land owners. They also placed two park boundary and "no dumping" signs at the park. One was immediately stolen. and the other one continues to have a paper bag placed over it with various derogatory remarks. The CVRD bylaw enforcement officer is in the process of trying to correct this situation. A front end loader and truck should be used to remove the remaining debris and cement from the area as soon as possible.

Minutes of the Area E Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of August 23rd, 2010, continued:

3. Parks and Community Information Signs

One sign, at Sahtlam, is already in place. The sign for the Glenora Trails Head Park should be installed very shortly while the Boys Road kiosk/sign is expected to be up next spring. Mike Lees, and the Sahtlam Fire Department, who assisted with the kiosk construction wanted to thank Shirley McLeod, the CVRD GIS Coordinator, for her many hours of assistance in preparing the maps and text for the sign.

At this point the meeting moved into closed session.

The closed session meeting rose without report and returned to regular session.

Other Business:

1. Glenora Trails Head Park:

Frank McCorkell indicated that the motion sensor lights have still not been installed and are needed. He also mentioned the showers are locked for the moment since the caretaker has reported that dog owners have been taking their dogs into the washrooms and on more than one occasion dog feces had been found inside the building. It was recommended by the Commission that a) a couple of dog "hitching posts" be installed away from the building but near the "doggie bags", b) signs erected to inform the public dogs are not allowed inside the building and c) large appropriate signs posted in conspicuous places around the playground indicating dogs are not allowed within the area.

Additional equipment is also going to be needed for the caretaker and should be acquired from the present parks budget. This includes a push lawn mower so he can mow small areas and a leaf blower.

The Commission would also like the caretaker to have hats saying CVRD Parks, (or something appropriate) as well as a name tag, e.g. Glenora Trails Head Park
Custodian

This may assist with the overall management of the park.

2. St. Andrews Church, Cowichan Station

Phil Gates provided the Commission with about the church, now not operating as an Anglican Church, and said that a meeting should be arranged between church officials and the CVRD to discuss its future. It was suggested that there needs a formal letter coming from the Anglican Church to the CVRD Chair of the Board of Directors, Gerry Giles as well as the Chief Administration Officer, Warren Jones, to request a meeting to discuss this matter in greater detail. Phil indicated he would relay this on to the church officials.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be at the call of the Chair.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.